

Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update April-June, 2015

Grantee: PHILOMENA HOUSE

Goal: To provide temporary housing for 2 to 4 pregnant women in a life-affirming program that empowers them to become financially independent and self-sufficient

For the period:

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Financial Assistance	Provide assessment; provide Financial Freedom classes; assist residents in completing financial assistance applications	2 - 4	Two arrived in August in first trimester and were due in February. One delivered a 41/2 pound, boy on Jan.12, who is now thriving. One delivered "our" first girl a few weeks early-Feb. 14 and she also thrives;-) Mom left because of drinking May 6, We kept her daughter at Phil.Hse. until 5/13 when she went to Child Protection Services. Our third guest was due April 12 with a boy. We connected her with all services but she left (evicted for refusal to leave) because of extreme negative (threatening) behavior and refusal to work our program. One came 6/10 and delivered a healthy boy 6/12. Child entered CPS on 6/16 and mom never returned to Phil.Hse.(reunited with baby dad). One mom in first trimester came 6/26 and left 6/27 (reunited with baby dad)	30
Housing Assistance	Provide a home for women; weekly life coaching group and individual meetings	2 - 4	One guest is working hard on finding jobs and housing. One bought a car and intends to move with her son to section 8 housing (for disabled) as soon as this is available	4
Mentoring Program	Pair residents with volunteer mentors; provide intake assessment; provide support in carrying baby to term, setting goals; assist with development in areas indicated in assessment	2 - 4	One guest is paired with mentor and doula and relationship has been very helpful/productive.	2

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Nutrition	Provide nutrition education; provide healthy snacks during meetings; provide instruction in meal planning, shopping and cooking	2 - 4	One guest shops/cooks with housemother. This guest has a disabling neurologic disorder and has difficulty with breathing and swallowing. She has been treated for myasthenia gravis and we provide Boost, Carnation Breakfast and other easy to swallow juices and supplements.	10
Parenting Education	Provide parenting education and information on making parenting plans	2 - 4	Our guest has 'parented' "my whole life" and is still babysitting her brother's children daily and is not interested in attending our parenting classes. Housemother and Life Coach spend time discussing parenting infants and children of all ages with her.	4
Pregnancy Education	Provide pregnancy education	2 - 4	Our guest does not smoke on the property and seems to have quit smoking.	1
Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only	Staff provides clients only intake assessments, information on, referral to and assistance with securing necessary services	2 - 4	Our guest continues with her medical care (at neuro. Clinic) and takes her infant to Pediatric appointments and immunizations. She also visited a Kidney specialist because of a weight gain of 35 pounds since diagnosis and treatment of M. G..	12
Transportation	Provide bus passes for transportation assistance to educational opportunities and work	2 - 4	We sometimes help our guest by providing gas for her vehicle.	4

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	2

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity	2
Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity	2
Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity	2
Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity	2

Challenges: Our guests have received car seats, and pack-n-play from the Public Health Nurses. We often discuss abuse, crib, sleep safety and car seat safety. Visiting Public Health Nurses have been overheard discussing these issues as well. We would like DVDs for our computer that we could use with our guests highlighting these (above) issues.

Three weeks ago on March 9 we accepted a guest (originally from here but living in St. Cloud) who continues to argue and intimidate all in the home. As Co-Director I met with her Tue.(Mar.24) and said the Philomena Program was not a good fit for her and she needed to find other housing. She stated she had "no intention" of doing that. On Thur. around 5 p.m. she called and told me she needed to see me. I went to Phil.Hse. and she said our housemother is a "reckless driver". After speaking to both I discovered Sharon bumped the curb when parking in front of the house because of the distraction [REDACTED] caused "screaming at me". I announced to [REDACTED] that Sharon would be unable to take her to the store or ANYPLACE in the future and that she needed to arrange rides for herself or use our bus card. Also that she must be moved out by Sunday, March 29 by 2 p.m. and that we could give her additional housing info. Again she stated "I am not leaving here!" I reminded her that she signed an agreement that she had not kept.

Comments: One guest has been very negative and intimidating in her approach with the other guests and the staff including volunteers. It is obvious she has no interest in cooperating with us and we cannot help her move forward and cannot continue to provide further services. She had signed a letter saying she will leave by Friday 4/3. She did not leave then. She left her things on April 9 and called Phil.Hse. on 4/10 to say she delivered a healthy boy. Eviction papers were served on April 13. On 4/19 she returned to pick up her things (Screaming and intimidating our housemother the entire time). Lawyer called (4/22) and asked us to drop the eviction so she could obtain other housing. We did drop the eviction for the sake of mother's newborn son.

-- We have "tightened up" our Admission Form. We intend to try to impress the women on importance of "working" our program.

